TOPICS IN TURKEY.

CIVIL REFORMS-ARMENIAN DISQUIET-SOCIAL INCIDENTS.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TELBUNE.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, June 28.

Reform is once more the order of the day in Turkey. A slight hint came from the German Ambassador some weeks ago that delays to reform might bring disaster upon the Empire. In one week's time from that date a full-fledged plan for reforming the internal administration of the Empire was elaborated by the Ministry. This plan has ever since been undergoing miscroscopic examination at the Palace. Several large conneils of eminent Moslem gentlemen have been called to examme the matter. Now the learned Doctors of Divinity have pronounced upon the thing as being entirely in harmony with the duties imposed upon

man by the Koran. All these preliminary steps having been gon through, the public waits with breathless interest the formal promulgation of the new regulations. The actual points to be included in the reforms seem so insignificant as to be hardly worth all this discussion. Governors of provinces are to be allowed discretion for deciding matters of local administration; the police is to be set on the track of the brigands; the courts are to become pure and independent of control. These are the results aimed at. Reform that will let the Governor of a province decide whether a man may build a mill instead of referring the matter to the Grand Vizier; that will put the travelling public, instead of the brigands, under the protection of the police; that will place suits at law beyond the influence of money or of rank, will go far to commence the amelioration of the condition of the people. But the very fact that so much is made of the preparation to attempt these little reforms takes away from enthusiasm over the fact that minds exist in Turkey capable of devising them. It is even suggested that the authorities will have to send up requisitions as difficult to fill as General Gillmore's request for men eighteen feet long to plant his batteries in the Charleston swamps. Men honest enough to carry ont any reform are not readily to be found among the Turks now in office. But the Russians are looking hungrily into Armenia, and the possibility that they may reform its administration, if the Turks do not, is a potent force. Perhaps some thing may be done.

Turkey does make some progress, in spite of all grambling to the contrary. During five years the Government has very much improved its financial position. Its revenues are more honestly collected and more strictly accounted for, in at least some departments. Changes in the more important of the provincial administrations are less frequent than ten years ago. Officials thus have more time to become acquainted with the details of office routine. Public works are being pushed very considerably. In Asia Minor a number of carriage reads have been added to the thin list of such facilities. The Government has bound itself to connect, within a couple of years' time, its railroad system with the Austrian railroads, so as to admit of a lightning express from Constantinople to Paris. All these matters are clear gain, with which may also be reckoned the slaughter of a certain number of brigands who have too hardly tried the patience of the provincial authorities.

Yet the people still groan under a burden of increasing poverty. Trade does not revive. Increased vigitance in finance means further grinding down of the peasants in the interior, and too often involves absurd hindrances to lawful trade. Some of the peasants have shown a desire to emigrate to America. But this device has been checked by the local authorities, who have refused to allow a man to stir unless he can give bonds for the payment of all the taxes which may be expected to fall on him in the future, for he cannot escape taxation by emigration.

The roads built in Asia Minor are built by forced bor. Every man has to work a certain length of time on the roads of his neighborhood. This seems reasonable enough as a regulation. As interpreted by the authorities, however, it seizes men within fifty or in some cases, seventy-five miles of a given road, and forces them to work for such time as may seem desirable. Of course the wretches thus im pressed have to furnish their own transportation to the scene of their labors, and their own food. The three days' road duty thus involves a loss of some two weeks' time, and an amount of physical hardship which no Saxon would submit to for a moment. The worst of it is that through the incompetence of the overseers, the labor often goes for nothing. These men stake out the road, have the stone brought and broken, and smooth over the surface in a laudable manner. But if there is a crossed they leave it for some future effort. If they each a marshy region they skip it and begin again on the other side. Or if they strike a mountain slope they build the road square up to its foot and commend the traveller to Providence for the means of getting over the mountain top. Then they prom the road to be finished and leave it to its fate. A few rains cut it all up, the caravans avoid it as a snare and a delusion, and in due time complaint reaches the Governor as to the state of the road. That functionary proceeds to the spot, calls imprecations on the heads of the men who did such work, and summons the unhappy populace to new efforts in the line o' road-making. The roads which are made under competent superintendence are beginning to be a blessing to the people. But many are the bitter experiences that the people have had to endure before gaining so much of improvement.

The brigands have attracted unusual attention of late through increased boldness. In the Smyrna district the Zeibeks made a raid a few weeks ago and carried off a dozen or two of local magnates at one swoop. The victims were held for ransom. The Sultan instantly removed the Governor of Smyrna, and sent a commissioner to the spot with orders to exterminate the robbers. But this commissioner no sooner arrived at Smyrna than he was beset by the wives and relatives of the people whom the Zeibeks had captured, and was forced to delay operations at their entreaty until, the negotiations for ransom being concluded, the prisoners had been released. By that time most of the Zeibeks had carefully selected less dangerous regions for their abode.

The Government is anxious as to the future of Armenia. Russia is evidently planning serious mischief in that direction. The occupation of Erzeroum and the Armenian highlands is probably only a question of time. Meanwhile the authorities here are doing much to facilitate any future action of Russia by wounding the Armenian national sense in every possible way. It is getting to be dangerous for a man to speak of Armenia. School textbooks that allude to such a geographical subdivision are suppressed and no study of Armenian history is allowed on any pretence. In Armenia itself book is regarded as a danger to the State, and the owner of one as nearly as bad as a con-

Of course all such trivial annoyances imposed by the Turkish authorities upon Armenians can only have the one effect of keeping alive any existing national feeling, and of arousing it where the day when an Armenian question shall be needed by the Czar for the furtherance of his purposes, he will find all the material for it ready to his hand.

One is ready to wish sometimes for a power to step in and reform some of the people who turn up in this city as representatives of European civilization. There are many fine men in the large pean colony here, men of mural worth and intellectual ability. Such do much toward breaking up the blind prejudice of the Moslem populace toward foreigners. The sturdiest Moslem cannot fail to learn a lesson in liberality of feeling from the sturdy honesty of a merchant whose word as absolutely trustworthy under all circumstances, and who stands in point of morals head and shoulders above the Turks who call him an infidel dog. But there is a clear of heavers-on on the outskirts But there is a class of hangers-on on the outskirts of the European colony, who are of mongrel blood but put on the name of foreigner only to befoul it by misdeeds. A case of this sort occurred last week. A so-called Englishman—a Greek with an English passport—came up here from Athens to fight a duel with a Russian officer. The local police have not had much experience in duels and were at a loss how to act. They have an impression that the duel may be a sacred privilege of Christianity,

in which they may not interfere without violating conscientious scruples or outraging the treaties. But the English consul requested the police to arrest the English subject; and after a little delay the Russian consul did the same to the Russian subject. The police deployed along the banks of the Bosphoras to seize the would-be duellists. But the two camped out one night in a garden near Therapia, crossed the Bosphorus into Asia at day-break the next morning, and before the police found them they had given the Moslem villagers of the Asiatic shore a view of the manner in which Christian gentlemen behave. The "Englishman" ran the Russian through the abdomen in the presence of seconds in a perfectly honorable manner, and then took to his heels and escaped on a Greek ship-of-war. in which they may not interfere without violating

It used to be, perhaps it is now, customary in country villages in the United States to give a reward to that Sunday-school scholar who could rattle off correctly the largest mass of verses from Scripture. The Tarkish papers are recounting with oride a feat of this order just achieved in this from Scripture. The Tarkish papers are recounting with pride a feat of this order just achieved in this city. Two very religions gentlemen, connected with two important mosques of the city, lately got into a dispute as to the time necessary to repeat the whole text of the Koran. They finally made a bet upon the subject. The winner was to have the coat of his opponent, and the loser was to walk home in his shirt-sleeves. Both gentlemen knew the whole Koran by heart, and a large circle of friends assembled to witness the contest. In fact the affair created quite as much interest as a cocklight. Both started off in fine style, giving, as the papers put it, "what attention to the vocalization and the proper sense of the text as was possible under the circumstances." The man who gave the challenge was worsted. His opponent, a well-known Imam, repeated the whole Koran from beginning to end in six hours' time. The vanquished Imam, not relishing the prospect of exhibiting himself in the streets of the city in his shirt-sleeves, refused to give up his coat; and an appeal was bad to the nearest police station. The inspector of police decided that the bet must be carried out to the bitter end; and the newspaper in reporting the affair gives devout thanks that the capital contains among its other perfections a man capable of doing such a great and holy work in so short a time! short a time!

GARFIELD, BLAINE AND HALE.

PERSONAL NOTES AND REMINISCENSES.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE Boston, July 20.-Some weeks ago I was telling Senator Eugene Hale's partner, Emory, of Maine, how General Hanceck Mr. WHA accidentally appointed to the West Point Military Academy, Hancock's father being poor and some of the kind neighbors of their own suggestion thinking to relieve his father and mother. Mr. Emory said: "I can tell you a story answering exactly to that. There was a young man in our town of Ellsworth whom I wanted o come into the office in the absence of a regular clerk and attend to calls, etc. Mr. Hale came home from Washington and saw this stranger sitting there and asked him if he belonged to the office. The young man said Yes, that he was there a while to oblige Mr. Emory Mr. Hale opened his mail and found that the West Point authorities had notified him that his nominee to the Academy had not passed the examination and that he must immediately send in another name. Mr. Hale walked into the next office and asked his partner who this conne man was, who his father and mother were, etc. then turned around and wa'ked back to the office and asked the young man if he would like to go to West Point and could probably pass the examination, and the coung man said he would consult with his parents at They gave their consent, and then in the twink ing of an eye be was up at the Military Academy, passed the examination, and nobody knows what his destiny

Me ting Mr. Blaine's clerk of fifteen years, Thomas H. Sherman, a Bucksport, Me., boy, he said to me: "Mr. Blaine has at last begun to dictate on his book, a thing ne had too little confidence to do, though much inclined to for a good while. He sometimes dictated to me in his orci ard at Augusta, whither he has now gone to work all He is closely absorbed in the book, but I this summer. am glad of it. Intense and preoccupying as such a long-sustained composition will be, and be already feels it, it is occupation or him and not uncongenial. He uses the only stenographer we have at Augusta-the one who re the Legislature." "Will this book Le tilus "Yes, with portraits and groups of men de " Will this book Le tilus trated I' scribed-fifty perhaps. It is to be published by the [311] Company, at Norwich, Conn." "How much of it is "Wanposed already?" "Nearly half of the first volume, I sussect. It was hard work at first to collate the materials for a short period prior to Mr. Blaine's advent in Washington, but that is now done and he is on the solid ground of personal experience.

General Garfield was a warm friend of Mrs. Blaine and called her "Harriet." He went to Mr. Blaine's house the night before he was shot, and not finding the Secre tary of State there impressed upon "Harriet" several things he desired done in his absence, among them the purchase of a portrait by Miss Ransom, his constituen the State Department. Wit a Garfield was shot be called after Mrs. Blaine among his early requests. remained near him until the bodyguard drew in the lines Mrs. Blaine among other things wanted some coffee given to the President to settle his ever-fainting tomach, but it was refused for a day or two, and meanstomach, but it was refused for a day or two, and meantime nothing would stay upon his stomach; finally the
coffee was procured, and immediately Garfield feit casy.
Mr. Blaine's household suspect that the President's life
could have been saved and draw the'r belief from.
Doctors Garnett and Lincoln. Aithough a bone of the
spine was fractured the spinal cord was not broken.
Mrs. Blaine has six children, ranging from eleven to
near thirty years of age, three of them boys and unmarried as are two of the girls. The second daughter, now
about eighteen, is very graceful and winning. Alice
made a visit to Fort Leavenworth, and the LieutenantColonel there, a native of Irland, and in middle life,
found himself not overlooked in her regard, and became
her husband to the satisfaction of all the house.

INDUSTRY IN WEST VIRGINIA.

OIL, COAL AND LUMBER RESOURCES.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. WHEELING, W. Va., July 21 .- The western half of the Old Dominion is just now undergoing a pro-cess of regeneration that makes the followers of old fossilsm and upholders of the ancient code look on with startled gaze. Hitherto no particular energy has ever started up the inhabitants except up here in the Panhandle, and the cause of the industry in this section is the fact that Pennsylvanians predominate. The Yankee spirit of energy, however, has at last got hold of the people, and the result is an active growth, both in point f population and industry, throughout the State.

The greatest excitement of the moment is the oil fields in the vicinity of Parkersburg, which promise well. Two three-hundred-barrel wells have been struck there within the past few weeks, and a number of smaller ones, and aithough there are no "gushers" the dry holes are few. This naturally attracted a number of oil men from New-York and Pennsylvania, and the result is a large influx from those States. Many of them are busily er gaged at present negotiating for territory, and already some of them have been successful in striking the best quality of petroleum in paying quantities. Parkersburg, the Oil City o. West Virginia, is on the boom, and people are eagerly flocking in. A daily paper is to be started there in a few weeks with Asso lated Press dis patches and all the city-like airs of a metropolitan newspaper. The Hebrew clothing man, boarding-house keeper, saloon men, sports and all classes that go to make up a live oil town are there, ready for the excitement which has just begun.

Within the city limits of Wheeling immense gas wells have been struck which promise to revolutionize the nail trads. The mill men are arranging to use gas instead of coal and thus lessen the cost of manufacturing nails

coal and thus lessen the cost of manufacturing nails about 15 per cent.

The new capitol at Charleston is almost completed and will be ready for occupancy six months before the Legislature convenes there in 1885. The capitol at Wheeling will then be converted into a city hall.

At least a dozen new railroads are in course of construction, and the homediate developments of the extensive coal fields and the work of putting West Virginia's lumber on Eastern markets are already in operation. There is seemingly no end to the coal and lumber resources of this State, and "Sam". Randail, who visited Senator Kenna at Charleston a few weeks ago, says that "the coal beds and lumber districts of West Virginia will prove a dangerous rival to Pennsylvania." Among the most prominent of the new roads is the Ohlo River Railroad, in which Senator Fair, of California, is largely interested, which will be in operation between Wellaburg and Parkersburg in three months. The railroads in the interior are principally branches of the Baltimore and Ohlo Into the coal fields. The counties are iberally voting bonds to railroad enterprises. A large amount of English capital is also being brought into use here.

A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS.

THEIR DESCENT UPON VENEZUELA.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] MARACAIBO, June 25 .- That spawn of Satan, the locust, has again enveloped our fair city of Mara-calbo and spread its ravages for miles around. Whether it is of the same species as those which Moses called down on the devoted heads of the Egyptians, I am unable to say, but I can aver from experience that a more diabolical creature does not exist. These locusts not only consume every blade of grass and every leaf they settle on, but even gnaw twigs of the trees, and thus destroy many and retard the growth of others. Not eve the cocoanut-tree, whose fleaves are of the toughest and most fibrous nature, escape their assaults, except such as grow near the lake-shore, for the locusts seem to dread water, though the severest rains do not affect them while clinging to trees. During their sojourn here no linen can be exposed to the open air, for even that they

consume, and when they light on a person they have immediately to be pushed off or they will gnaw the clothes from his back. This is not exaggeration. I was wit-ness of its truth in the case of a servant whose total blindness enabled the locusts that lighted on her almos

to destroy the callco dress she wore. What I have detailed above, however, does not comprise all the mischief these flying flends inflict, for being endowed with the faculty of expelling their digested food as fast as they consume it, they render the roofs unfit to convey water to the cisterns, on which we are entirely dependent for drinking-water. We are thus compelled to close the outlet of our roofs during their stay here and for some time after, until the tiles are thoroughly cleansed. It might be said that this is not such a grea evil, as water might be caught after the first shower during their absence. But they do not allow us that chance as it is precisely during the rainy season, when verdure is freshest, that they appear. Losing then our oppor

is freshest, that they appear. Losing then our opportunity of filling our tanks, we are left for six months thereafter without an adequate supply.

On their first incursion into Maracubo, two years ago, the excitement they created was intense, causing the death of many nervous invalids, and impressing every one with the dread of impending lamine. Our municipal government at once offered a reward of eight reals per quintai of locusts, private enterprise lamine ed flaming rockets into the passing swarm, bonfires were lighted, the church-bells tolled, prayers were offered up to the saint, and the inevitable small boy set to work killing them (no) the saints) wherever found. But every million so destroyed was replaced by millions more that took firm pessession of the city and environs for nearly a week, and then departed for fresh fields and pastures new. new. No one who has not seen a flight of locusta can realiz

No one who has not seen a night of locusts, can realize the dense mass they form, countless as the sanis of Sa-hara, passing through the air with a sound like the dis-tant roar of breakers, and the knowledge that each single member of that mass is a concentrated essence of mis-chief, capable of illimitable reproduction, renders the sight truly annalize.

chief, capable of illimitable reproduction, renders the sight truly appalling.

The locust, until the month of May, 1881, was unknown here, or in any part of Venezuela, though it had for years been laying waste the most fertile fields of our neighboring republic, Colombia, particularly the rich state of Cauca which they raticed for the space of three years. Thence they proceeded along the coast to the extensive pastures on the Goalira Peninsula, reducing the Indians there to absolute famine. Thence they came here, devastated this part of the country, took occasional excursions to the came, corn and rice plantations on the margin of the lake, settled down for a while in the interior States, with occasional visits to us, and are now apparently on the wing for the Indian territory.

REASTS AND BIRDS IN THE PARK.

SOME OF THE ECCENTRICITIES OF MR. CONKLIN'S PETS.

The polar bear with contentment marked upon every hair of his burly form, and with his snou lying passively upon his outstretched paws, was dream ng yesterday afternoon of climes where thermometer are not a staple article of trade, where sun umbrella are things of tradition, and where mint juleps are ic pefore being made and are absorbed for the sake of their inherent heat instead of their imparted chill. His dream of cubbood were going on in a most promising way when suddenly Superintendent Conklin of the Central Park menageric and a Trinung reporter appeared as spirits of discord. "This," said Mr. Conklin, as he negligently turned a stream of water from a six-incl hose on his prestrate victim, "this is quite a young bear. He is only two and a half years old and is about However, the heat may expand him, five feet in length. However, the heat may expand him, and by the end of the summer he may fill his cage—or some secluded nook on Barren Island. He has not seemed to regard the warm weather with much ditent. We give him a large quantity of water and as he is a tectotaller be is satisfied. good luck with the animals this season. We have not lost one. We give them light food and they seem to thrive. But I suppose you want news. Well, here

We have a baby elephant whose young innocence has not been corrupted by evil companions. He is as grace ful as a nightmare, and when he trips around his encic sure he impresses the grass and gentle Gaisses with the fell importance of his presence. He is a little over alx months old, and although not birth, is quite satisfied with an American by which his lot has been cast. the lines into This hair on his head, he was born with. The growth is not remarkable, but the hairs could be used very readily as knitting needles. The only reason why we don't dis pose of them as such is because we dislike to take advantage of Mr. Barnum, his owner. He couldn't take him into Canada with him because the Custom House requires duty on elephants, and he is a little too bulky to be smuggled. He is growing quite rapidly. The first year he will grow fourteen inches; next year he will eight inches to his stature.

" We have also received recently a pair of European brown bears. They are the kind that the Italian uses as a source of income when not employed by Commissione Coleman. Perhaps you notice that they have larger heads than the American bears. That is perhaps due to the fact that they appreciate the vast importance they are of in the support of their masters, and develop their heads accordingly. One of the most beautiful animals we have at present in the menagerie is this white fa low-deer. It comes from England, and is a remarkable specimen; its cont is like silk. Besides the deer, we specimen; its coat is like slik. Besides the deer, we have a doe with a fawn two weeks old. They are both of the species whose coats are of a dark-brown shade with faintly traced circles of black. But this is our pet. You see through the wire grating a bird with dazzing white plumage on its breast and gray down upon its neck; it is a hen herring gull. Over there you see her mate. Well, she has laid three eggs and is 17 jung to hatch them. The bigh might plumain and subble beneath her is the mate. Well, she has laid three eggs and subble beneath her is the them. The high pile of brush and subble beneath her is the nest, and the brave bird gathered it by piecemeal unastest, and the brave bird gathered has a nest that is equal to sisted by any of us until she has a nest that is equal to be side of the brave built meen the crags of Greenland in them. The high pile of brush and s. hold beneath her is the nest, and the brave bird gathered it by piecemeal unassisted by any of us until she has a nest that is equal to any she might have built upon the crags of Greenland in the past. Her mate is very attentive to her, brusging to the nest such little tid bits as he thinks she would fairly. Should she hatch the eggs the young guils will be the first that have ever broken shell in this country. The color of the eggs is a peculiar brown with spots of a light shade; they are about as large as duck eggs. We have watened the birds with great interest, and should the hen be successful there will be rejoicing in the Park.

"This is the season, you understand, when we have the fewest animals in the collection, as of all the birds and beasts that pass the winter under our care, very few belong to the city. About the middle of the autumn the showmen begin withdrawing from the road, and many of them send their menageries here. They are given stails, and the animals are cared for by us nutli the following spring, so that with the exception of the cost of feed, the showmen are under no expense for the storage of their menagerie. In winter, therefore, our collection is a very fair one—in summer, also, it is very poor."

FACTS ABOUT IMPORTED CIGARS.

WHERE THE BEST TOBACCO IS GROWN-DOMESTIC BRANDS INVERIOR.

A TRIBUNE reporter recently called at the old importing house of Purely & Niebolas, at No. 43 Beaverst., and made inquiries concerning imported cigars. When asked what class of cigars they handled, the answer was: "We handle none but strictly imported cigars with the exception of a few Key West cigars made for special customers.

"Can you tell me the actual points of difference between an imported and a domestic cigar !" "In appearance, grain and style of manufacture the domestic is rather the better-looking of the two, but in

flavor there is a peculiar something about the imported article that baffles imitation " How do you account for it ?"

In the first place, buyers on the spot go into the fields in the districts where the finest tobacco is grown and select their purchases before the tobacco is more than This gives the Cuban manufacturers the best article to work with and it would not pay to import and make up that tobacco to be sold as a home

W. H. Thomas, of the firm of W. H. Thomas & Co. No. 25 Heaver-at., importers of cigars, said: "I know smokers are generally sceptical and suspicious of goods offered in the market as imported. This is natural where there are so many imitations and false representations. The established reputation of a house is worth everything to the buyer. We have been in the business of importing eigars since 1833, and we handle no other kind. The best grade of tobacco grows in the districts known as Vuelta-Abajo, which means over and below. There is a range of hills or small mountains along the There is a range of fills or small mountains along the north coast of Cuba and these Vuelta-Abajo plains lie over and below these hills. The soil is a rich sandy loam and in its virgin purity it produces the finest tobacco in the world. I understand that they are now introducing guano and other fertilizers with the risk of poisoning the land for fine tobacco-growing."

"Does this tobacco find its way to our market in the tale to

When the plant stands a little over a foot high field buyers for the large houses in Havana visit No. When the piant stands a little over a foot high in the field buyers for the large houses in Havana visit the district and buy up the best fields at auction. One man will step up to a barn door and chalk down the price he is whing to pay for a certain lot and challenge others to know if they will do better. I have known as high as \$500 per 100 pounds of tobacco to be paid in this way for tobacco growing in the Vuelta-Abajo district. The prices range down for other grades as low as \$60 per 100 pounds." 100 pounds."
"Could this fine tobacco be imported and made into as

"Could him and towards of the clear that the clear is a those made from it in Cuba t"
"It has often been tried, but there are several reasons why it cannot be successfully accomplished. In the first place, there is a certain prejudice in favor of an article known to be imported. The buyer of a cigar made here runs the risk of adulteration with our cheaper homeas the risk of adulteration with our cheaper home-own tobacco. He is willing to pay more for the curity against these risks. A cigar made here from pure imported tobacco is wanting in a certain indefin-able flavor that is supposed to be due to the climate of Cuba and probably in part to certain washes and methods of curing and preparing known only to the an manufacturers."
What is the effect of using domestic wrappers with

What is to elect of using coincide wrappers with a training and the state there is a certain what I call 'funkiness' about a domestic wrapper that injures the Havana tobacco. I have tried putting the best quality of these wrappers over a genuine Havana cigar, with the same undesirable result.

"How is the crop this year in Cubat"

"This year's crop promises to be of fine quality, but the stand was injured by a hurricane when the plants were young."

"How does the Key West eigar compare in quality with the Havana-made citar!"

"When Martinez Ybor, who was a Cuban rebel or patriot, frat took refuge in Key West, he carried over there his stock of fine tobacco and hands that were accustomed to manufacture it, and the cipars the made were very fine. There are as good cigars made here now as there are in Key West, but neither are as good as the

oure Havana."

" Can an expert always tell a pure Havana cigar ?"

" Not by the sight, but he can by smoking it."

" Woha are the highest prices for the pure article ?"

" We handle some brands at \$400 a thousand."

HOW BILLIARD BALLS ARE MADE. ONLY THE TUSK OF THE WILD ELEPHANT USED-

CUTTING AND COLORING THE BALLS. Said a manufacturer of ivory billiard balls: Only the tusk of the wild elephant furnishes ivory hard enough to make into billiard balls. The fierce temper o the wild beast hardens and solidifies the tusk, while that of the domesticated elephant is of no use for this purpose. Henry Adolph Meyer, of Hamburg, Germany, le the largest dealer in ivory in the world. He sends men into Asia, Africa and India to buy up supplies, and there are sales at public auction every three months in Londop, which set the standard for prices over the whole

" How is the ivory prepared?"

"For making into billiard balls, those parts of the tusks that are of sufficient diameter and perfectly solli are sawed into blocks representing the diameter of the ball and are shipped directly to us in that shape.

On visiting the workshop it was found that these blocks re first put into a lathe and an ivory harness-ring turned from the outer edges before work is begun on the ball proper. After these rings are taken off along "bark" of the tusk an eighta of an inch thick, the ball cut in the rough is laid away to season for not less than six mouths, as it is liable to crack and shrink if used without seasoning. To finish the ball from the rough a block of hard wood with a socket capable of holding one-third of the ball is well chalked and the ball inserted. The rotating motion causes the ball to adhere firmly to the wooden socket, and with a steady hand, a correct eye and sharp chizel the intelligent mechanic cuts the globe with perfect symmetry. With a sharp pencil he first outlines a centre, then quartering this is cut with a sharp chisel a delicate groove to th exact depth of the diameter of the designed ball, and with practised precision the ball is cut down to corre spond with the depth of this groove. To detect any errors in the symmetry of the ball a sheet of thin brass has perfectly round hole one-third the diameter of the ball cut in it. The ball is placed in this hole and held to the light in such a manner that the light will show through wherever the brass fails to touch the ivory. After the chisel the finest sand paper is used; then pumice stone and water, and the ball is finally polished with whit-ing and alcohol. To make the little black spot on the white ball a small hole is drilled and a piece of chony wood forced into it. To color the balls they are first placed in a bath of muriatic acid and then in the color-ing matter while beiling not. The compounds of coloring matter while bolding and matter are trade secrets.
"What should be the treatment of billiard balls?"

asked the reporter.
"They abould never be bought in the winter," was the asked the reporter.

"They ahould never be bought in the winter,
answer, "for very, even after it is well seasoned, is
susceptible to ac influence of the weather, expanding
and contracting with each change of temperature, and
if these changes are at all violent they are sure to crack
the balls. They should always be kept in a place of even
temperature, such as a room always comfortable to live
its. When they become cracked they should be well
to the award of the state of the state

in, when they become cracked they are they are the stress of the stress and prices!"

"We make them from 25-16 inches to 25; inches in diameter. The American standard among the professionals is 25; inches. South America and Cuba require a larger pall. Taey cost from \$20 to \$30 a set, depending

w are the different colors put on pool balls !"

"How are the different colors put on pool balls?"

"We have tight-fitting brass cups to put them in with openings like steneti blates and the exposed part of the ball is fouched with acid and subjected to a bath of coloring matter."

The manufacturer had nothing to say in favor of composition balls. They are less clastic and durable than ivore, besides being highly dancerous, as they are composed of gun-cotton and camptor. This renders them liable to expode or burn if brought in contact with a lighted taper. A plees of composition barness ring was ignited and emitted a strong smell of campbor and it burned as freely as fat pine.

In the manufacturer's show window of the house stand a pair or immense elephant thisks, the largest in America. They are seven feet six inches from tip to base and weigh 117 and 123 pounds respectively, and are worth \$800. They were taken from a tame elephant from India that had been made to assist in loading and unloading vessels, and great grooves were worn in the sides of the thists where the rope had been allowed to sup in lowering heavy packages.

THE CHILDREN OF THE TENEMENTS.

BITS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE ROUNDS OF THE SANI-TARY INSPECTORS.

The report of the first week's work of the Sanitary Inspectors showed a total of over 7,000 families visited or an average of about 309 families to each in-spector. The number of cases of illness was somethig over 600 and only ten deaths were reported. Consider ing the number of families visited the percentage of illness is small. The poorer the locality and the more rowded and squalid the houses, the greater the number of children. The doorsteps, hallways, staircases yards and rooms literally swarm with them, and in some ocalities where the houses are so ingeniously cor structed that the stairways and balls are in Stygian darkness the visitor is in doubt, first, of breaking his neck, and at the same time, step,ing on a sleeping child, perhaps to cause serious injury or even death. children choose the staircase as a resting-place it is difficult to explain, but chance visitors to these tene ments would do well to take heed, for in no case can one advance in safety without giving one warning of bi coming. Though, as a general rule, the children are dirty and ill-kept, occasionally an exception is seen, like some rare and beautiful flower in a garden neglected and overgrown with we ds. The children a sanitary inspector meets in his rounds are in some respects singu larly, almost pathetically precocious, often at eight or nine seeming to have laid aside childhood and taken upon themselves the carrs and reponsibilities of age. In one instance a little girl of hine had complete charge of the house," consisting of three rooms, her mother bein belpless from an attack of rheumatism. She cooked the meals for her father and two brothers, attended to he mother, and took care of three younger children. The rooms were in an exceptionally neat and orderly con dition. Often, when the inspector turns in despair from his efforts to gain information from the mother, he finds

his efforts to gain information from the mother, he finds a ready intelligence and intuitive quickness of understanding in the children which is remarkable. In many instances, especially among the Poles, the children are the only interpreters, speaking English and their own language as a rule, with equal facility.

Generally the people whom this extra summer corps of physicians is designed to reach are quick to appreciate the efforts made in their behalf and are profuse in their acknowledgments of any benefits derived from the physician's advice or treatment. The greatest, or one of the greatest, difficulties the inspector has to contend with is the igno ance regarding the proper food for children. Frequently on inquiry he finds that a sickly delicate child of two or three years is allowed to eat what it likes and when it likes. One woman made the rather startling announcement that her little girl of three years lived almost exclusively on raw meat and strong coffee and with such a diet she could not understand why the child did not thrive. It is this dense

three years lived almost exclusively on raw meat and strong coffee and with such a diet she could not understand why the child did not thrive. It is this dense ignorance and utter disregard of common sense in feeding children which is the cause of a large percentage of the cases calling for medical advice.

The cheap fruit stands do much to promote one of the most common and, if neglected, fatal complaints incident to childhood at this season. Another nuisance in the tenement districts is the stable, which is often a source of great annoyance and danser to the houses in the immediate vicinity. In these thickly popul-ted quarters disease is undoubtedly produced by the foul gases generated in these crowded and generally filthy places.

It is somewhat remarkable that the sulcons, often in It is somewhat remarkable that the autoons, often in

It is somewhat remarkable that the scioons, often the worst localities, are kept with a neatness and order which would do no discredit to a good hotel, seeming an oasis of cleanliness and order in a desert of filth and confusion. Very little drunkenness is seen during the day, though when the male clement appears at night the scene changes. During the summer evenings there is a constant stream of children going to the saloons and returning with pails, ligs and pitchers, beer being the most popular as well as the cheapest drink.

A MODEST CHARITY.

One of the least pretentious charities of New-York is the Eighth Ward Aission, at No. 9 Ludlow-place, West Houston-st., conducted by Mrs. M. Laidlaw. It is in a tenement district, though the buildings retain much of the neat look that marked them a quarter of a generation ago, when it was an attractive place for residences. The mission was started by Mrs. Laidlaw six years ago to care for boys about fourteen years old. At that age, she says, boys are more i need of a guiding hand than when younger, as they are then ambitious to be manlike and they imitate alike the good and the bad. She found that boys of fourteen who were at work seldom received more than two or three dollars a week, which was barely sufficient to reut a amail, iil-ventilated room, to say nothing of their board. She proposed to provide for as many boys of this class as she could a mother's care and instruction. Ten boys live live in the mission house and a class of seventy, com-posed of bootblacks, newsboys and street boys, meets there for study and instruction. In addition to this work there is a sewing-class for

women, meeting once a week and numbering forty while a similar class for girls has sixty members. On Tuesday evenings a Bible class meets under the direction of W. Bayard Cutting. The work of the mission has been developed entirely by the efforts of Mrs. Latdiaw and mainly at her own expense. She devotes all her time and attention to it, with the advice of the Rev. Dr. Potter, and the frequent ald of ladies of the Episcopal Church in the parish. Her ambition is to extend her work so that she may increase the number of her family of boys, but especially to open a nursery to care for the children of poor women who are obliged to be away from home the greater part of the day a owrig. women, meeting once a week and numbering forty

BROADWAY NOTE-BOOK.

MEN AND THINGS, THE COUNTRY ROUND. THE PERSONAL NOTES AND NOTIONS OF A BROAD-WAY LOUNGER. Seven Harvard students are waiting on the

Profile House tables this year-" seven of us, sir," as one said to me last week, taking his pour boire like the owner of a " Tally-Ho " stage. Lucius Tuttle, general ticket agent of the Eastern Rail-

road, who sends thousands of passengers to Mount Desert, the White Mountains, Montreal, etc., says: This year the boarding-houses are doing the business the hotels are behind. I attribute it to a bad year in Wall Street and State Street. The brokers are the best money spenders in the land. Their fulness or emptiness is the key to the prosperity of the best hotels."

Senator Eugene Hale in the practice of law has made little fortune for himself of fifty thousand to a hundred thousand dollars. His wife is said to have twelve hundred thousand, and with her mother's interest million and a half.

The Rev. E. P. Roe, the novelist, has been spending some days at Coney Island writing on his new story, fo which he has a large cash offer, or his royalty. Individual books of his have sold 130,000 copies. He is straight, fine-looking man of perhaps forty-seven, with dark eyes and full tark beard, manly features, and a Shakespearean forehead, and impresses one with his sincerity and conscientiousness. He is one of the first amateur gardeners and small-fruit raisers in the country. living at Cornwall-on-the Hudson. He built and still teaches the church near West Point. His brother, who had a summer hotel at Cornwall and for whom he indorsed, became a victim of the West Shore Railroad, for which he had extended himself hopefully, but its swarms of Italian laborers ruined the season, and in the sequel the Rev. Mr. Roe was heavily involved. To the labor of paying off this debt he has addressed bimself with thristian courage. His first book, "Barriers Burned Away," was projected in the ruins of the Chicago fire looking up at Robert Collyer's hollow church walls, and The Evanjelist gave about \$200 for it, leaving him the unexpectedly large copyrights. The fourth book pub hisher, it is said, offered \$300 for the manuscript. Mr. Roe is pushing forward in the line of moral and social fiction, and is often seen sitting up by the judge in the police courts or pioneered by the police to the opinio dens. His purpose is missionary as well as literary.

I fell in near Long Beach last week with a tall ex-Confederate from the region of Great Falls, on the Potomac River, Virginia, who said he was born in New-Hampwent South when a child. He was shot through the acid at Seven Pines, riding in on a Federal picket. He told me that in his youth he lived near Piscataway, Maryland, and was in that country when Sur ratt, the father of John Surratt and the husband of Mrs. Surratt, came in there. Sald he: "Surratt was an ad venturer as we considered; he had a swarthy face and beard like a Spaniard, and I think nobody knew just where he came from. He was a Catholic, however, and met his wife at Piscataway Catholic church. She was much younger than he was, and it was considered quite a descent for her to marry him. She was a Miss Jenk-ins. He kept a small cross-roads store and traded with negroes and bought grain and tobacco, and slowly worked his way up until after he attained a moderate success the opposition to him relaxed." I had never heard this description given of the elder Surratt, and do not mention it from having had any personal confirmation of the story. The same informant in response to s ine as to whether there was not at one question of m time a considerable settlement of New-York far around Fairlax Court House, replied: "Yes, but they were poor stock. Most of them were anti-renters fro New-York State who had been driven out of the manor counties, and two of them were reputed among us to have been concerned in the murder of a sheriff at Delai.

Mr. Washington McLean was telling me last week of in account Henry A. Wise gave him after the war o going to the relief of William Stade, of New-Hampshire, who was in Congress forty years ago. He had expressed some abolition views there, and a huge Georgia bully in Congress thought it would be a popular thing at home to insult him publicly. So he walked up to Mr. Slade and deliberately spit a mouthful of tobacco juice in his face. Wise had been struck with the beautiful, womanly face of Slade. He went up to the bully and said: " You cowardly dog, spit on me now! I'll eat you into dog-"What I" exclaimed the unwashed fellow. Slade, who had quietly wiped the spittle off, looked up surprised; he knew Wise's face, though Wise had never spoken to him. "Mr. Wise," he said, "don't get into difficulty with this man on my account." "He a man!" said Wise; "I'll get into no difficulty with him. He knows his man this time, too." Slade become Governor of Vermont in 1844.

In Boston recently I met a son of the founder of the Adams Express Company, who gave me some interesting points. His father began the express business with life erally nothing and was his own carrier and distributor. and had so few customers that he could attend to them personally, delivering parcels, whether of money or merchandise, at their rooms. The further he proceeded into the business the darker grew the path, and his wife was unable at one time to go to church or make visits, because she had not a bonnet or gown that would do her husband credit. Yet Mr. Adams was sure that he had a great thing, though he also had to face a rival, Harnawhat earlier fr In this emergency Mr. Adams found a man with means, Mr. Dinsmore, who is now at the head of the organization, and who is said to be worth anywhere from three or four millions to twenty millions of dollars. He put his shoulder to the wheel, brought Mr. Adams ou triumphantly, and the Harnden Company, for want of a similar methodical sponsor, lapsed into poverty, while the Adams Express magnates lend money by millions to the railroad companies.

I observe that a contractor at Bradford, in the oil regions, has the job of preparing the road-bed from Baltimore to Philadelphia for the Baltimore and Ohlo extension. The sum involved is put down at \$1,500,000 It is an easy country to build railroad through, the chief work being the piling of the wide streams and a bridge across the Susquehanna. The Reading Railroad extends to Chester, sixteen miles below Philadelphia, on the very track the Philadelphia and Baltimore Company the very trace the close of the war, when, to get out of the tidal district, they built a cut-off through the hills to the Schuylkill River. The extension of the Baltimore and Ohio line to New-York is a clear admission that all railroads to get business enough must come to this port. While the Baltimore Company is making Baltimore mere side station on their line, capital here and in Baltimore is embarking in a through line of steamers which will have the effect of a rival line to the West and South via Baltimore, the Western Maryland Railroad now constituting not only a trunk line down the great valle, but an accessory line to the new South Pennsylvania Railroad to Pittsburg. The Western Yaryland, like the Eric Railroad, was projected merely to accommodate ertain local districts which the State had not already provided with rail, Mr. John W. Garrett often said hat it was money thrown away, but the road is turning out to be a general instrumentality.

The late Mr. Duff, of Boston, who built the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railiroad, was a connoisseur in paintings, and I had an opportunity not long ago to look at some of them in the residence of his son, an actorney on Par' st. He was the owner of one of Vibert's masteroleces representing two priests or cardinals who had quarrelied; the picture has been engraved and is familiar t the public. I was much struck with a Russian painting by a Russian artist, delineating a troop of exiles for Siberia going through the forest with their covered wagons and suddenly arrested to say the Greek prayers to Heaven. Indescribable forlornness, misery superstition were expressed not only in the countenances and even in the animals, but in the scene of lonely pine and fir. I inquired last week about Mr. Oden Bowie, the Mary

land sportsman, who, as I had been told in Maryland, made money out of his running horses. An authority said to me: " I judge that he keeps just about even. He raises a good many horses in the Forest of Prince George, and their grain has to be carried out there to some extent, making it expensive. Mr. Bowie is a quie man but with a very strong will, and when he takes s position you can hardly drive him from it with artillery. Some time ago a jockey boy who had been ruled off on of the tracks for some breach of discipline was riding at Baltimore, and being very anxious to win, and losing the race by hardly a head, he felt somewhat infuriated, and as he was coming down the track in front of the judges' stand, the other boy said something to him and this one struck him with his whip in the sight of the indges. He was immediately ruled oft, and that insure his dismissal from all the tracks in the Association. A good deal of pity was felt for him, as he was a married man with a family, about forty years old, and so igno rant that there was no other way for him to pick up a living. He had not even the sense to drive a hack. Boys who are trained to ride racehorses get no schooling in general, though the Lorillards are now sending their ockeys to school, so that heatherism shall not be in perative with them. A dinner was given with the intenof getting this man back, and by an understanding several persons expressed themselves, but Bowie said noth-ing, notwithstanding the champagne and good cheer made a warmth of heart around the table, so much so

friend, concluded that the jockey ought to be re-In a little subsequent conversation between these two men, however, Bowie convinced Mr. Booth that there was no necessity of having rules if they were to broken; and that the jockey had already been duelplined once and restored. So he has never been put back, and subsists on loans and help from former patrons and from other jockeys."

that Washington Booth, Governor Bowie's Intimate

Mr. Knox, who may have fought a duel some time age in this vicinity, was a consumptive young man from the north of Ireland, and came out to Texas to find a healthy climate. He started a column in The Galreston News, called "Siftings," which attracted attention, in part because of the dry commercial matter in the rest of the paper. It occurred to him that Texas might stand a weekly paper, so he went in pursuit of Mr. Sweet, of San Antonio, who had a local reputation as a humorist and who had been educated in a German university, although he was of regular Texas Amer They united in a paper at Austin which took the name of Knox's old column. Sweet stays at home and makes the jokes while Knox travels afar and does the advertising and business. Duels do not advertise wise men in this istitude.

General Averili, an officer of good repute in the Army of the Potomac, who particularly ran McCausland down after he burned Chambersburg and dissipated his com-mand, remarked to me recently: "Though I have acted with the Democrats for several years, I often put on Republican spectacles. The Republican party was the rapid growth of a very hot period, and, if you will notice, in the vegetable world the productions of such time after they shoot up to a certain height differentiate or divide and redivide, putting out two limbs, and from those still other limbs. That is why the Republical party at present has two well-defined opposite elements in it, which cannot be brought together any more than two branches of an original trunk. The Democ party, on the other hand, is merely strong by being the opposition. Of itself the Democratic party at present has no other strength than the press and reinforcements. It has no strong leaders. Take up the list and turn them over man by man, and there is a disappointing sense left."

"For myself," said General Averill, " I prefer Hewitt for our candidate for President." "Why Hewitt !" and I. "He is a crotchety man," said Averili, " but that is not to his prejudice. We do not want any flexible, oneless Presidents,-men trying to conceal something and not to offend somebody. It will not hurt the Pres dency if we should get in some upright man like Hewitt, who will Low and then say something to indicate a backbone and an indignant spirit. Hewitt is the very best person for us to nominate to meet this tariff ques-tion, not to evade it. We put forward a manufacturer and say to the people: * Here is a Democrat interested in the prosperity of manufactures but who sees that reformations are going to help and not hurt the manufacturers, and who has mind enough to discern some way of relieving consumers while leaving the manufacturing plant strong."

I can remember when the first railroad to the New-Can remember when the first railroad to the new Jersey coast was opened, about 1859-780, called the Camden and Atlantic. On Christmas Day, 1861, I west to Atlantic City, which then consisted of about five hotels, chief of which was the Mansion House, I think, and there I had canvas-back duck with the solemn old pro-prietor. A little later I went to the opening of the railroad to Bridgeton, which in course of time developed into a railroad to Cape May. Now there are at least three railroads to Atlantic City, and the Pennsylvania's new line runs off to Barnegat and will ultimately extend down the Jersey shore from Red Bank to Cape May, ppening the entire coast and all its inlets and beaches to nummer travel. Much of this coast is also fair for winter invalids, and the time is at hand when we shall have a winter as well as a summer season along the sea. That will probably come when we have brick houses instead of frame boxes to live in at the sea-side, and can go to sleep without fear of burning up. Cape May be came about 1850 the chief watering place in the United States, and the Mount Vernon Hotel, the very name of which is almost forgotten, was in its day the finest resort at the sea-side. Fire consumed it and also its lead-ing successor. Congress Hall. There is hardly a beact in the world superior to that at Cape May, and the temperature of the water comes nearer the desideratum for bathing than almost anywhere in the world. The drawbacks to the place are its flat situation and occasions masquitoes on the land breeze, and the water supply has not been as carefully attended to as at other resorts.

One of my notes about Wager Swayne, of this city, being descended from the original Harper of Harper's Ferry, through his niece, has brought forth the following dated Cincipnati: " I presume you are not aware that Harper, the founder of Harper's Ferry, had a daughter named Sarah, who married a man named Jones Sams, about the year 1785, and about the year 1790 she and her husband moved to Ohio, then a wilderness, and settled near where now is the vilage called Sardinia, in Brown County. She died in 1845 after raising a large family, consisting of five girls and four boys, one of whom still lives near the old home at Sardinia. Harper, of Ferry fame, had twenty-five great-grandsons in the late war, some for the North and some for the South. Some of them were at the taking and retaking of Harper's Ferry. Harper, the founder of Harper's Ferry, has great-grandchildren now living in nearly all of the Western I have never heard of the Wagersor the Swavner as being connected with the Harpers; however, I know very little of the Eastern branch of the Harper family. Sarah Harper, the daughter of the founder of Harper's Ferry, was my grandmother, and it is strange that my great-grandfather's niece should inherit his property, when he had a faughter of his own of the same na

Baltimore, that was enriched by the Union armies and ifted from a factionality to be the neighbor of the American capital and the protege of Pennsylvania, is looking about her for employment for her surplus population in more manufactures. I found at my hand a few days ago this extract from a paper published there on January 2, 1861: "Is Maryland prepared to choose whether she will be the ally of Black Republicanism and the antagonist of the South, or one with the South and the antagonist of Black Republicanism f . . . This brings us to our proposition, and it is the necessity of an immediate issue which the people of the North may determine, as they ought to do, the question of union or disunion. . . . The course of the North has been one of incessant provoca-tion, and while widely nullifying the laws of Congress, nolding its authority at defiance and so violating the spirit of the Constitution it has advoitly thrust upon the south the alternative of submission or secession. And thus the attempt has been successful to impress the people of the North with the idea that the odium of dispeople of the North with the lines that the column of a union was upon the South. Unfortunately there are some among us in Maryland—presses and individuals— who are sadly tainted with this artful heresy." Then follow signatures to the call for a secession meeting in Baltimore for February 1, 1861: "James Carroll, Jahn V. L. MacMahon, Joshua Vinsent, C. O. O'Do Robert McLane, Kelly & Piet, James H. Brown & Bro., William Pinkney Whyte, Thomas M. Lanahan, William S. Waters, John Thompson Mason, W. L. Walters & Co., W. H. Quincy, T. J. Townsend, Samuel Tyler, George Lynn Lachlin Davis. The officers of the meeting were Dr. A. C. Robinson, president, assisted by William Henry Norris, Samuel W. Smith, William G. Harrison, John V. L. MacMahon, George S. Brown, Ross Winans, Robert S. Hollins, W. T. Walters, Thomas Wmans, S. Teackle Wallis, Robert McLane, Henry Garrett, etc."

"Do you understand," was asked of an old army cor respondent by a former officer of General Rosecrans's taff, " that the Duchess of Ossuna, who is mentioned in THE TRIBUNE'S Paris letter as the cause of the breach between the King and Queen of Spain, is the Princes Salm-Salm who figured for a time so prominently it Nashville while General Rousseau was in command "Yes; I understand that it is the same roman," was the answer. "She was about twentyfive then, and one of the most beautiful women I ever saw. She was very tall, graceful, and a daring rider on horseback. She was as reckless of reputation as of life n those days. Salm-Salm was a poor-spirited sort of husband but a very good soldier. The Princess fol-lowed Maximilian—to whom her husband, as the son of the Prince of Saim-Braunfels, was distantly related-to Mexico, and was with him as nurse, confidente and cher amie during the slege of Queretaro, where the bogus Emperor was captured, and remained at his bedside during his captivity and iliness till he was shot. She and her husband, I believe, accompanied his remains to Austria, and it was immediately after this that the Prince died and the gay widow married the late Duke of Ossuns." "She must be quite matured now." "Forty-five is not old for such a woman, for her charms of conversation were as great as those of her person. Age could not have withered her much, and her infinite variety of arts has evidently increased with years. Max was about be own age, and Alfonso, her latest conquest, is about twenty years her junior." The latest previous publica-tions devoted to the Princess Salm-Salm who figured here as this army correspondent states, represented her as being in Canada, but that was several years ago. C. Clark, lately private secretary to Green B. Raum, and now clerk to some con Washington, was also in Queretaro at the time Maximilian and Salm-Salm and his wife were captured; and some years ago published an account of their behavior at that trying time.